(d) whether it is also a fact that Rs. 4100,000/- crores are to be spent in coming 10 years under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 has been notified on 7.9.2005. Under the Act, Rural Employment Guarantee Schemes are to be formulated by the State Governments. The State Governments have been instructed to formulate Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme under the Act. The Act is likely to be implemented in 200 districts of the country in the first phase of its implementation. The process of identification of the districts has so far not been completed.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) The estimated expenditure for the first phase of implementation of the Act is of the order of Rs. 17,103 crores. After the Scheme is extended to cover the all districts of the country within a period of 5 years, the estimated expenditure would be about Rs. 49,600 crores per year.

Investment in rural infrastructure by private companies/MNCs

1630. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of investment by private companies/MNCs during the last three years in rural infrastructure;

(b) whether such investments in rural areas have been inadequate; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to encourage more private investment in rural infrastructure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) The information/ data on investment by private companies/MNCs is not maintained in the Ministry of Rural Development. However, the Ministry is implementing rural infrastructure development programmes namely, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) for rural roads, Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) for Rural Housing and Rural Drinking Water Supply. These are also the components of Bharat Nirman.

(b) and (c) The Scheme of Bharat Nirman has been announced with the purpose to focus the attention on development the rural infrastructure with six components of Irrigation, Rural Drinking Water, Rural Roads, Rural Housing, Rural Electrification and Rural Telephone Connectivity. The Government have recently announced the Scheme for Support to Public Private Partnership (PPP) in infrastructure wherein viability support would be provided to infrastructure projects taken up under the scheme. In addition, a scheme to provide long term debt to infrastructure projects through India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL) has also been announced. Although the scheme/company is not dedicated to rural infrastructure but its activities can cover rural areas as well.

Suggestions of NAC for giving new form to RES

†1631. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering the suggestion made by the National Advisory Council for bringing expediency in giving new form to Rural Employment Scheme and co-operative machinery for their active operation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 has been notified on 7.9.2005. Under the Act, Rural Employment Guarantee Schemes are to be formulated by the State Governments. The State Governments have been instructed to formulate Rural Employment Guarantee Schemes under the Act Suggestions have been made by the National Advisory Council for the effective implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.

Wage fixed for NREGS

†1632. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.